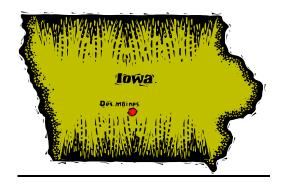
# Report prepared for the Ongoing Covenant with Black Iowa



# City of Davenport, Iowa Scott County, Iowa

Submitted by:
Task Force Project Coordinator
Jimmy Drummond
720 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street
Davenport, Iowa
(563) 514-7613 (h)
(563) 570- 2409 ©
jimmydrummond@live.com

### Acknowledgements

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#### Executive Summary\_

The goal of this report aims to address the primary issues outlined by the OCI toward creating a plan of action for African Americans today in our local Davenport, Iowa community.

The Covenant states: "I am tired of feeling afraid for my children's and grandchildren's futures and waking up at night wondering whether human life will end on America's and Our watch for children everywhere in our violence-saturated world." Further, there is urgency for individuals to stand with him in stopping these violent predatory attempts.

"We must do all we can to level the playing field for opportunities, increase social & economic prosperity and dismantle the cradle to prison to death pipeline".

With that said, aggressively, each of us <u>must</u> embrace the OCBI goals & objectives for achieving the organizational efforts toward stopping the multiple racial deprivations affecting our communities today. The mindsets, apathy and increasing numbers of disparities confirm that *ALL* should first (1<sup>st</sup>) take an internal assessment and determine "It starts at home".

The challenge for most and this community understand the necessity of organizing to make an effective difference and for individuals to embrace the concept to renew our minds to retain the moral and social fabric of the apathetic attitudes.

Consider this report a start for us toward taking a stand in the urgency of the message.

## **Demographic analysis**

Davenport, Iowa is considered a midwestern region, the third largest city in the state of Iowa and is approximately three hundred mile (300) East of the Capital City, Des Moines Iowa.

With a population of **97,500** people, **Davenport** is the largest "Iowa City" bordered on the Mississippi River. It's also the largest and most robust of the Quad Cities, **a metropolitan area** of more than **350,000 people**.

For your review, I have included a copy of the demographics for our local community.

Census information for Scott County Iowa provided by the United States Census Bureau website: www.cenusus.gov

# Scott County, Iowa

**O**Further information

People Quick Facts	Scott County	Iowa
Population, 2006 estimate	162,621	2,982,085
Population, percent change, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2006	2.5%	1.9%
Population, 2000	158,668	2,926,324
Persons under 5 years old, percent, 2006	7.1%	6.4%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2006	25.7%	23.8%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2006	12.1%	14.6%
Female persons, percent, 2006	50.9%	50.6%
White persons, percent, 2006 (a)	89.6%	94.6%
Black persons, percent, 2006 (a)	6.4%	2.5%
Marican Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2006		
(a)	0.3%	0.4%
Asian persons, percent, 2006 (a)	2.0%	1.6%
<ul><li>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, percent, 2006</li><li>(a)</li></ul>	Z	Z
Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2006	1.7%	1.0%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2006 (b)	4.6%	3.8%
White persons not Hispanic, percent, 2006	85.4%	91.0%
Living in same house in 1995 and 2000, pct 5 yrs old &		
over	54.0%	56.9%
Foreign born persons, percent, 2000	3.1%	3.1%
Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2000	5.6%	5.8%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	86.3%	86.1%

Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	24.9%	21.2%
Persons with a disability, age 5+, 2000	23,773	446,665
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2000	18.4	18.5
Housing units, 2006	69,827	1,320,331
Homeownership rate, 2000	70.6%	72.3%
Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2000	23.9%	18.4%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$92,400	\$82,500
Households, 2000	62,334	1,149,276
Persons per household, 2000	2.49	2.46
Median household income, 2004	\$46,947	\$42,865
Per capita money income, 1999	\$21,310	\$19,674
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	12.3%	10.5%
	Scott	_
<b>Business Quick Facts</b>	County	Iowa
Private non farm establishments, 2005	4,570	82,087
Private non farm employment, 2005	82,118	1,261,108 <sup>1</sup>
Private non farm employment, percent change 2000-2005	0.4%	-0.3% <sup>1</sup>
Non employer establishments, 2005	9,450	192,917
Total number of firms, 2002	12,202	236,515
Black-owned firms, percent, 2002	1.9%	0.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native owned firms, percent, 2002	F	0.3%
Asian-owned firms, percent, 2002	1.3%	0.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander owned firms,		
percent, 2002	F	0.0%
Hispanic-owned firms, percent, 2002	1.5%	0.6%
Women-owned firms, percent, 2002	27.9%	27.0%
Manufacturers shipments, 2002 (\$1000)		65,042,043
Wholesale trade sales, 2002 (\$1000)		33,546,948
Retail sales, 2002 (\$1000)	2,150,022	31,195,012
Retail sales per capita, 2002	\$13,516	\$10,629
Accommodation and foodservices sales, 2002 (\$1000)	492,950	3,698,955
Building permits, 2006	694	13,357
Federal spending, 2004 (\$1000)	797,843	19,217,899 <sup>1</sup>
Geography Quick Facts	Scott County	Iowa

Land area, 2000 (square miles)	457.93	55,869.36
Persons per square mile, 2000	346.4	52.4
FIPS Code	163	19
Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area	Davenport- Moline-	
	Rock Island,	
	IA-IL Metro	
	Area	

- 1: Includes data not distributed by county.
- (a) Includes persons reporting only one race.
- (b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.
- D: Suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information
- F: Fewer than 100 firms

FN: Footnote on this item for this area in place of data

NA: Not available

S: Suppressed; does not meet publication standards

X: Not applicable

Z: Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown

Source U.S. Census Bureau: State and County Quick Facts. Data derived from Population Estimates, Census of Population and Housing, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Survey of Business Owners, Building Permits, Consolidated Federal Funds Report

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#### **Available Resources**

Current & available resources for the Davenport community include: United Neighbors, Friendly House, Iowa Workforce Development, Federal Bonding Program; Local Unions & Apprenticeships; Local banks per the Community Reinvestment Act; Faith Based initiatives Executive Order, Iowa Status on the Commission of African Americans; Governor's office; Davenport Police Department, Scott County, Iowa offices, AIDS Project Quad Cities; Scott County Health Department; City of Davenport Iowa – Affirmative Action office; Scott County Housing Council; Judges, Scott County Public Defenders office, The Sentencing Project, Quad -Cities Interfaith; Davenport Community Schools, Reentry Program, Drug Courts, Substance Abuse Centers, Vera French Mental Health Center; Churches, NAACP, Civil Rights Commission;

Vera French Mental Health Center; Churches, NAACP, Civil Rights Commission; Learning our Black History; Reaching back; Praising GOD and finally, Utilizing the Unique Technology of the Internet to Research and obtain any and all knowledge available.

# **Activities**

Community stakeholders were identified and contacted with scheduled meetings; promotional outreach efforts, development of partnerships, interviews/individual

discussions and comments and personal observations were used in the compilation of information for this report to discuss the identified key issues.

Some prepared essay reports with their solutions and recommendations. They are attached as well.

#### Time Frame

This effort was developed on a very short timeframe, therefore, through numerous discussions, meetings, data and report evaluation of the key issues for OCBI, the proposed solutions must involve "Ongoing Efforts" to make an effective impact.

Community Organization, collaboration, leveraging of available community resources and active participation will be the key factors in developing these short- term & long-term goals/objectives. Further, individuals will need to be educated on the importance of "effective" organization with workshops provided to provide this information.

## **OCBI & Project Coordinator Goals**

- To identify more committed leaders and volunteers.
- To develop a key contact list with names, addresses, emails & phone numbers.
- To disseminate the contact list to OCBI participants and staff.
- To train and equip the identified leaders.
- To identify key contact persons for the available resources and develop a working contact sheet.
- To learn the mechanics for leveraging funds.
- To report progress on initiatives to the OCBI staff as required.
- To attend the Annual Covenant with Black Iowa Summit
- To receive the ICSAA report detailing the progress of the participating communities.

#### **Outcomes**

Consider this information analysis of Disparity gaps on key issues identified by OCBI, for African Americans in Davenport, Iowa. Further, recommendations/solutions are included. For the purpose of this report being recorded by Wilma Drummond, I will incorporate my interview comments, personal observations, research, gathered data and recommendations/solutions into one working document to meet time reporting deadline. I personally was responsible for assessing the housing component.

As information becomes available, that information will be submitted at a later date.

I have attached as separate documents the submitted essay reports from focus group members. Their recommendations are also included into this single document.

Meeting the housing challenge:

**Housing:** The City of Davenport, Iowa has identified a significant need for more affordable housing stock and resources in our community.

The key housing related challenges, which continue to be faced by the African American families *and* low-income families, for Homeownership opportunities and private market and public housing industry rental housing are:

- 1. The limited availability of "affordable homeownership opportunities for African Americans & low-income families.
- 2. The limited availability of "affordable homeownership opportunities for African Americans & low-income families.
- 3. *Very, Very* limited supply of rental housing for African Americans, extremely low-income and low-income families with any household member that may have a criminal record, extremely low and very low-income families.
- 4. The increasing need for additional, affordable, permanent, assisted living/supportive and transitional housing to include seniors and persons living with HIV/AIDS for African Americans and low income families.
- 5. To eliminate the exorbitant rate of foreclosures in this immediate area.

#### **Recommendations & Solutions for Meeting these challenges:**

- To expand the affordable housing options for African Americans & low-income families
- Educating landlords, staff, applicants, community and participants on the new laws and regulations regarding the utilization of Housing Choice Vouchers (formerly the section 8 program).
- Provide outreach education on the application processes for public housing applicants, the One Strike Policy, appeals process, and understanding the Changing Face of Public Housing, as we once knew it.
- To educate through an orientation process, individuals on criminal records & background checks when applying for public housing and private market rental housing.

- To educate landlords & the community that HUD encourages the housing industries to review criminal records on an individual basis looking at the following items & applying fair & equitable processes on the following:
  - o Applicable crime(s) that exclude
  - o Definition of identified crimes
  - Explanation importance of the public housing application appeal process.
  - o Importance of understanding the contents of a lease agreement.
  - The need for individuals to request a copy of the defined/written lease for agency/apartment handbook.
  - Understanding the Fair Housing laws and how they are applicable for the African American citizens.
- Educating the community/applicants on mixed -income developments, Tax Credit usage verses 30% of the Annual Income calculations.
- Providing posted information & outreach to the community on the "current" and published -Fair Market Rent Rates for the Davenport, Iowa community.
- Identifying a community resource to partnering with local bank and/or credit unions implementing Individual Development Accounts (IDA's) concept.
- To *appropriately/adequately* educate resource personnel and families on the Sub Prime Loan Disaster, Fixed rates, Adjustable rates, resources available for 1<sup>st</sup> time home buyers, current laws & policy governing foreclosure, Housing Counseling agency purpose, what to do in the event of receiving a foreclosure notice and what to do if you get behind in your mortgage payment.
- Request Congressman to propose the mandate that all lenders include in the buying option, to require all potential candidates/to attend and complete a home buying program.
- Leveraging of available resources to adequately determine the need and utilization of resources effectively.
- Increase the lack of public support for affordable housing by promoting & proving decent, safe and sanitary housing.
- Maintain & preserve the current housing stock through the Rehabilitation and utilization of the numerous home vacancies within the Central City area.
- Look at other cities across the country to determine "Good Practices Models" on ways to effectively increase homeownership opportunities for African Americans and to use those models as future guides and blueprints.

• By ensuring Equal Opportunity housing for everyone through the Elimination of subtle discriminatory practices used with African Africans for renting public & private housing. Including educating that redlining is discrimination, and it must be eliminated and shall not be tolerated.

African Americans and Lower income families especially those who could become current and potential homebuyer families were determined to have other **non-housing challenges**, which impact their ability to obtain suitable quality housing. Among those challenges and impediments:

- Significant increases in their pay and skill levels. (Per census)
- Reduction of high childcare cost.
- Adequate transportation & increase in the Quad city transit hours.
- Agencies developing the multidisciplinary concept for offering supportive services toward <u>adequately</u> meeting the needs in the delivery of services and not duplicating those services through the development of professionally trained staff on current housing issues.
- Increase employment of African Americans in the lending industry, public housing agencies, real estate industry, housing counseling offices and any/all other pertinent resources

## **Education & Youth**

Meeting the education & youth challenge:

- To demand that Davenport Community Schools meet their current mission statement for providing quality education to enrich the quality of lives for All the African American youth enrolled in the Davenport Community Schools.
- Meet with the Superintendent to ensure they meet with individual principals to promote the message the environment created stimulates the teachers and students for higher learning or not.
- <sup>1</sup>Reading Comprehensive proficiency Levels = report includes ALL African American youth in the Davenport School System out of 100 % proficiency rates: African Americans represent 43.45 % proficient 11<sup>th</sup> grade. 24.22 % 10<sup>th</sup> grade; 28.62% 9<sup>th</sup> grade; 44.53% 8<sup>th</sup> grade; 39.68% 7<sup>th</sup> grade; 38.67% 6<sup>th</sup> grade; 53.93% 5<sup>th</sup> grade; 50.81% 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 52.54% 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- Math proficiency levels= report includes ALL African American youth

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Information provided by Davenport Community School District, Davenport Iowa – June 30, 2008

- 53.56% proficient 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 54.84% 4<sup>th</sup> grade; 55.43% 5<sup>th</sup> grade; 43.11% 6<sup>th</sup> grade; 47.37% 7<sup>th</sup> grade; 39.84% 8<sup>th</sup> grade; 30.50% 9<sup>th</sup> grade; 26.46% 10<sup>th</sup> grade; 40.00% 11<sup>th</sup> grade level.
- Science Proficiency levels = report includes ALL African American youth. 52.54% 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 50.48% 4<sup>th</sup> grade; 48.69% 5<sup>th</sup> grade; 50.67% 6<sup>th</sup> grade; 54.66% 7<sup>th</sup> grade; 5f1.56% 8<sup>th</sup> grade; 36.48% 9<sup>th</sup> grade; 34.98 % 10<sup>th</sup> grade; 45.52% 11<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Increase Reading Comprehension, Math, and Science proficiency levels while "increasing individual Self Esteem and Values from the African American perspective for all African American youth in the Davenport Community School District.
- Recruit & Employ more African American males & females.
- Continue to promote the importance of a nurturing & safe learning environment for all students.
- Set practical & high expectations for achievement and outline adequate benchmarks for evaluating staff on developing effective program curricula.
- Offer "effective" communication skills to our African American youth and parents.
- Teach our African American youth how to identify who they are and who/what oppresses them in order to know what to do with their life.
- Inform youth, parents and community on Davenport School Board role, meetings and purpose while continuing to request that each become "actively involved".
- Encourage voters to register and to vote for the school board members that represent our community.
- Budget adequate training dollars to hire Jawaanza Kunjufu & offer guidance on his best practice model: Developing Positive Self –Images & Discipline in African American youth.
- Offer ongoing training for staff and offer outreach activities to parents on the concept of "Developing Positive Self Images & Discipline in African American children and their families as guided by Jawaanza Kunjufu.
- Promote the importance of thinking skills.
- Incorporate the importance of reading positive literature published by African American males & females that offer profound impacts for achieving reachable realistic goals.

- Provide African American youth with a "Smile"!
- Call on our African American youth when they put their hand up!
- Put Prayer back into the schools.....
- Ensure that youth have adequate supplies & learning material to reach full learning potential.
- Increase the African American representation in the leadership role of the Iowa Youth Congress.
- Increase the instruction and technology support in the expansion of the Math, Exploring Engineering program.
- Educating our youth on the importance of striving for economic empowerment.
- Increase the opportunity for after school activities and ensure each child is given financial support to attend the activities.
- Include extra -curriculum activities i.e. physical education, sports, and recess to increase and meet youth developmental needs.
- Develop cultural enrichment activities for the African American youth. Partner with local businesses to sponsor and make available the opportunities for program activities to be financial feasible or offer them free. Including extra curriculum activities: volleyball, soccer, golf, tennis, basketball, baseball, football, uniforms, fees, shoes and equipment.
- Encourage the active participation of African American males and females for coaching the leagues.
- Educate the parents, community, youth on understanding the pressures of media, television and peer groups. Additionally, to inform them on the types of positive & negative press coverage.
- Hold summits, town hall meetings and/or forums to educate our youth, parents & community on the importance of Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity as priority items.
- <sup>ii</sup>Encourage our youth to become leaders for our community through the importance of moral respect, values, setting standards, resourcefulness, intelligence, how to possess effective leadership qualities, managerial abilities, assertiveness and aggressiveness, obtaining effective verbal skills including holding your head up and looking someone in the eye.

- Teaching our African American young men how to become men and young ladies how to become women.
- Teaching our youth about the importance of family and their particular role(s). Including what/who is a mother, father and what is an extended family.
- Eradicating the mindsets that material items, e.g. cars, rims, money, drugs, sex, profanity and abuse as being acceptable and priorities for the African American dream.

# Healthcare, Justice , Politics/Economic development

Meeting the Healthcare, Justice, political and economic challenges

- <sup>2</sup>African Americans represent: Sixty to Seventy Quad -Cities (Illinois) clients that are reported with HIV with AIDS Project QC. Only 35% of those sixty to seventy African Americans are currently being <u>treated</u>. Because Quad city Illinois includes the immediate davenport area in its makeup, this is critical as youth and adults alike cross the bridge daily for all life issue purposes.
- African Americans are one of the fasted growing groups for HIV/AIDS due to the lack of knowledge, stigma and simply put: Just not wanting to know.
- Per Wendy: Data is being drafted as we speak for information regarding the impact of HIV/AIDS effecting African American s in Davenport Iowa. That info will be submitted once received.
- Center for Disease Control (CDC) has identified new priority goals for the purpose of HIV/AIDS. If HIV negative remain HIV negative through no sex period and promoting the message for all individuals to always wear condoms. ALL individuals!!
- There is a current increase in the African American youth between the ages of 13-19 year old age group for sexually transmitted diseases (STD's): 33% are carrying the burden for STD's. Chlamydia; Gonorrhea; Syphilis
- African Americans are least likely to receive adequate healthcare due to lack of resources.
- I personally have spoken with numbers of African American men and women living in davenport whom have been diagnosed with prostate cancer, colon

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Per Executive Director of APQC Ms. Wendy Kelly

cancer, throat cancer, lung cancer, diabetes's, high blood pressure, suffered stroke (s), heart attack, dementia, Alzheimer's disease, breast cancer and ovarian cancer. Many have passed on some are in numerous treatments for the disease and

- Finally, murder now has become a priority health care issue. We must reduce the mindset that violence is a way of life.
- Reduce the apathy and increase the African Americans of davenport to become organized and be responsible/stand up to improve the quality of our own lives.
- Quit talking, complaining, blaming, lying and do something to improve the moral fabric of our communities. <sup>iii</sup>We must organize and mobilize to fight for social change.
- Embrace the concept it takes a village to raise a child. We Know the youth are our future.
- Iowa has the highest rate for incarceration for African Americans. We all should demand by speaking with the representatives, congressmen, legislators to change policies, close the gap of disparities address issues equally & effectively. We must find solutions to reduce and eliminate this disparity.
- Renew the spirit organization and dedication to social causes that motivated African Americans during the 1960's . (O.H)
- Break down the barriers of isolation and alienation that young blacks feel. (O.H)
- Omaei Hutchinson states: Demand that Politically conscious leaders and organizations to sharpen the issues and develop programs to attain economic, political and social empowerment. This is the long view. Until this happens there are five immediate steps African Americans can take to reduce the danger in our streets.
  - Develop community protection councils
  - Develop police –community partnerships
  - Form education and media task forces
    - Form anti-drug networks
  - Make Jobs, job training programs and income not more jails
- Educate police, employ dedicated African American police and bring back pride and respect.
- Hold Register to vote rallies then vote!!!

#### **Spirituality**

Meeting the spirituality challenge:

Make the decision to return to the classroom, go to church and enter/reenter the job market. Refuse to continue to allow your brain to feed solely on trite TV programming or other distractions that are neither educationally sound nor productive. Clear the hurdles of "put downs" and "you can't do it's" that you may have heard from family/friends as you talked about going back to school. Thank you for starting a journey that will eventually launch you into the career GOD intended.

Don't depend on anyone else to give you a relationship with GOD you have to gain that for yourself. Keep first things first. Quoted by Jawanza Kunjufu – Black economics

### **Impact**

The impact of these recommendation/solutions propose to do the following:

- 1. Improve the quality of life for African Americans in Davenport, Iowa.
- 2. To empower & promote awareness, & support of African American issues.
- 3. To ensure effective oversight through the guidance of the Ongoing covenant with Black Iowa.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Per information researched from Developing Positive Self Images & Discipline in Black Children; Jawanza Kunjufu

ii Statements from the Mugging of Black America by earl Oeari Hutchinson

iii Ear Oeari Hutchinson